

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
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P R 241619Z FEB 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9263  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY, TU, OVIP (CLIFFORD, CLARK M.)  
SUBJECT: REACTION TO CLIFFORD MISSION

REF: ATHENS 1716

1. THE GREEK MEDIA CONTINUE TO DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO THE CLIFFORD MISSION. WITH MR. CLIFFORD'S ARRIVAL IN NICOSIA, MUCH OF THE MEDIA EMPHASIZES--WITHOUT GOING INTO MUCH SUBSTANCE--THE "CRITICAL" NATURE OF THE TALKS HE WILL HAVE THERE AND NOTES THE "DETERMINED EFFORTS" OF THE U.S. TO BRING ABOUT A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IN THE NEAR FUTURE. MR. CLIFFORD'S REMARKS ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM ANKARA AND HIS ARRIVAL IN NICOSIA ARE WIDELY CARRIED, AS ARE THE WELCOMING REMARKS OF CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTPHIDES.

2. TWO CONTRADICTORY REPORTS ON U.S. MILITARY AID TO TURKEY HAVE ALSO SURFACED TODAY IN THE GREEK PRESS. ONE STORY IS THAT THE U.S. WILL NOT FURNISH TURKEY ADDITIONAL MILITARY  
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ASSISTANCE UNTIL THE CYPRUS PROBLEM IS WELL ALONG ITS WAY TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT. THIS VERSION IS BASED ON ALLEGED STATEMENTS TO THE TURKISH PRESS BY OPPOSITION LEADER ECEVIT TO THE EFFECT THAT MR. CLIFFORD TOLD HIM THE DCA WITH TURKEY WOULD NOT BE APPROVED UNLESS THERE WAS A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO THIS LINE OF INFORMATION REPRINTED FROM THE TURKISH NEWSPAPER TERCUMAN WHICH CLAIMED MR. CLIFFORD

HAD PLEDGED 250 MILLION DOLLARS IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE DURING HIS CONVERSATION WITH TURKISH MILITARY LEADERS. ALSO SCATTERED RHTOUGHOUT THE REPORTING ARE OTHER EXCERPTS FROM THE TURKISH PRESS WHICH REFLECT NEGATIVELY ON THE CLIFFORD MISSION. ONLY LIBERAL, OPPOSITION TO VIMA REPORTS FROM NEW YORK PRESIDENT CARTER'S REFERENCE AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY TO THE U.S. WILLINGNESS TO OFFER ITS "GOOD OFFICES" CONCERNING GREECE-TURKEY-CYPRUS ISSUES.

3. PRO-GOVERNMENT (INDEPENDENT) KATHIMERINI EDITORIALIZES ON THE CLIFFORD MISSION IN A LONG COLUMN CALLED "AFTER THE SMILES." THE EDITORIAL SAYS THAT TURKISH PRESS COMMENTS ON THE CLIFFORD MISSION REVEAL THAT TURKEY IS AS INTRANSIGENT AS EVER. THE GOT MADE IT CLEAR IT DOES NOT WANT WASHINGTON'S INTERCESSION IN EITHER GREEK-TURKISH DISPUTE OVER THE AEGEAN OR THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. AND WHILE ARGUING FOR THE SEPARATION OF THE QUESTIONS OF CYPRUS AND U.S. MILITARY AID, IN FACT IT LINKS THEM IN REVERSE ORDER AND WANTS AMERICAN AID AS A PRECONDITION TO ANY PROGRESS TOWARD A CYPRUS SOLUTION. THE USSR AND OTHERS HAVE NOT BEEN HELPFUL ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, THE PAPER CONTINUES. ONLY THE U.S. CAN PLAY A DECISIVE ROLE IN THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE DISPUTES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS WILLING TO INTERVENE ON TERMS ACCEPTABLE TO GREECE AND CYPRUS. IF NOT, A MILITARY CLASH WITH TURKEY IS THE ONLY "LOGICAL" CONSEQUENCE OF TURKISH POLICY. AT THE SAME TIME, SOME ARE INSISTING THAT GREECE SHOULD RETURN TO NATO, WHICH, WARNS THE EDITORIAL, WOULD MEAN, HOWEVE R, THAT ALL THE INFORMATION ABOUT GREECE'S PLANS AND READINESS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITS FORCES WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO THE TURKISH GENERAL STAFF. THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES WITH AN ATTACK AGAINST GREEK EXTREMISTS WHO CLAIM CARAMANLIS IS NOT PROTECTING THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND WHO ACT AGAINST THE PRIME MINISTER, WHILE THE CRISIS WITH TURKEY CONTINUES.

4. SAMPLE HEADLINES FOLLOW: KATHIMERINI, "AS IS EVIDENT FROM THE FIRST CONTACTS OF MR. CARTER'S EMISSARY IN NICOSIA-- THE AMERICANS ARE PUTTING PRESSURE ON ANKARA FOR A SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION;" EXTREME-RIGHT ELEFTHEROS COSMOS, "WHILE HE ARRIVED IN NICOSIA AND TALKS WITH MAKARIOS, CLIFFORD PROMISED MILITARY SUPPORT TO TURKEY;" PRO-GOVERNMENT ACROPOLIS, "PRESIDENT CARTER'S MAN DECLARED TO ECEVIT: AMERICA WILL NOT GRANT AID TO TURKEY--CLIFFORD: CARTER IS PRESSED ABOUT CYPRUS:" TO VIMA, "LEAVING THE SOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES TO THOSE IMMEDIATELY INTERESTED, PRESIDENT CARTER WILL OFFER ONLY MEDIATION ON CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN;" COMMUNIST (KKE-EXTERIOR) RIZOSPASTIS, "CLIFFORD PROMOTES NATO'S PLANS IN CYPRUS--THE SOLUTION ONLY IN ACCORD WITH UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS--THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE RECEIVED HIM

WITH FEELINGS OF INDIGNATION;" OPPOSITION, LEFTIST TA NEA, "WHILE  
SEARCHING FOR A NEW 'FORMULA' FOR AID--IS THE U.S. GIVING  
PLENTY OF WEAPONS TO TURKEY? CARTER HIMSELF IS TO DRAW UP THE  
CYPRUS POLICY;" LEFTIST ELEFTHEROTYPIA, "HE CAME TO CYPRUS IN  
VAIN,' TURK-CYPRIOTS SAY--CLIFFORD 'EXERCISED PRESSURE' ON  
ATHENS AND ANKARA;" ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE ESTIA, "CRITICAL PHASE  
IN THE CONTACTS OF MR. CLIFFORD IN MICOSIA."  
KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

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